

Gulf Coast Clean Up

The BP oil spill along the Gulf Coast is one of the worst ecological disasters in our nation's history, exceeding the Exxon Valdez spill in the late 1980's in both economic and ecological damages.

To prevent a similar ecological disaster in our region, I remain a staunch supporter of the permanent ban on oil and gas exploration on the Great Lakes as crucial for protecting the sensitive environmental nature of our ecosystem [P.L. 107-66](#) & [P.L. 109-58](#).

In response to the BP oil spill, the House of Representatives has approved numerous pieces of legislation to facilitate accelerated Gulf Coast cleanup and ensuring that the responsible parties cover cleanup costs.

This disaster continues to highlight the need to transition to a more diverse energy supply in protecting not just our ecological heritage but in maintaining our economic independence as well.